

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 05498 130741Z

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ACTION IO-13

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DEPT PASS BELCHER, AID/TAB, AND EHRLIGH, OIH/DHEW

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TAGS: EAID WHO

SUBJECT: MEETING OF WORKING GROUP ON WHO SPECIAL PROGRAM ON TROPICAL
DISEASES, JULY 7-8, 1976

REF: A GENEVA 5355; B GENEVA 5407

1. FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL POINTS BEYOND THOSE REPORTED REFTELS
EMERGED IN COURSE SUBJECT MEETING, WHICH ENDED JULY 8. (SET
OF WORKING PAPERS WHICH PROVIDED BASIS FOR DISCUSSIONS, TO WHICH
REFERENCES ARE MADE BELOW, POUCHED WASHINGTON JULY 7.)

A. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

GROUP REACHED CONSENSUS ON ESTABLISHMENT OF THREE BODIES,
WITH FUNCTIONS ESSENTIALLY AS OUTLINED IN WORKING PAPER 1. TOP
SUPERVISORY BODY WOULD BE JOINT COORDINATING BOARD (JCB), COM-
POSED OF CONTRIBUTING GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES (INCLUDING LDC'S
WHICH ACTUALLY CONTRIBUTE TO PROGRAM); PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
(I.E., LDCS INVOLVED IN PROGRAM BUT NOT CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES);
AND THE CO-SPONSORS (UNDP, WHO AND POSSIBLY THE WORLD BANK).
GROUP DECIDED AGAINST INCLUDING "ASSOCIATED PARTIES" IN
JCB MEMBERSHIP ON GROUND THIS WOULD MAKE BODY TOO UN-
WIELDY. SECOND BODY WOULD BE A STEERING COMMITTEE (SC)
COMPOSED OF TWO REPRESENTATIVES EACH FROM THE "CONTRIBUTING-
AND "PARTICIPATING" CATEGORIES OF JCB MEMBERSHIP PLUS ONE
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 05498 130741Z

REP FROM EACH CO-SPONSOR. THIRDLY, THERE WOULD BE A 12-15

MEMBER SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STAC) WHOSE MEMBERS WOULD BE NOMINATED BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF WHO AFTER APPROPRIATE CONSULTATIONS AND WHO WOULD SERVE AS INDIVIDUALS. IT WAS AGREED THAT STAC MEMBERSHIP WOULD BE BROADLY REPRESENTATIVE (I.E., PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTS, ECONOMISTS, ETC. AND NOT JUST BIOMEDICAL RESEARCHERS).

B. FINANCIAL ISSUES

WORKING PAPER 3 WHICH DEALS WITH SOURCES AND TYPES OF POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS AND HOW THEY MIGHT BE HANDLED CAME IN FOR CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION. DR. LUCAS ASKED THAT TO MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE IN CASH AND UNRESTRICTED (EITHER TO WORLD BANK ADMINISTERED FUND, IF IT COMES INTO BEING OR TO WHO VOLUNTARY FUND FOR HEALTH PROMOTION), ARGUING THAT THIS WOULD PROVIDE GREATEST EFFICIENCY AND FLEXIBILITY. SWEDEN AGREED AND SUGGESTED THAT COMMITMENTS SHOULD BE MADE FOR LONGER PERIODS (THREE TO FIVE YEARS) IF POSSIBLE. CANADA, HOWEVER, TOOK EXCEPTION TO WAY "NON-FINANCIAL" CONTRIBUTIONS WERE TREATED IN WORKING PAPER (I.E., STATEMENT OF EXPECTATION "THAT NON-FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE SMALL IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS" AND STATEMENT THAT "NON-FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY TEXTUAL COMMENTS RATHER THAN BY SHOWING THEIR CASH EQUIVALENT IN NUMERICAL PORTIONS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS". CANADIAN REP (LADOUCEUR) SAID HE DID NOT SEE WHY NON-FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD NECESSARILY BE SMALL IN RELATION TO CASH CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL FUND AND WHY THEY SHOULD BE SEEN AS INTRINSICALLY DIFFERENT FROM FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS. USDEL SPEAKING INFORMALLY AS OBSERVER EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH CANADIAN POSITION, NOTING THAT METHOD OF FINANCING PROPOSED ACTIVITIES SEEMED TO BE SECONDARY CONSIDERATION SO LONG AS SUCH ACTIVITIES WERE PART OF APPROVED "CORE" PROGRAM FOR ANY GIVEN YEAR AND ACTIVITIES LENT THEMSELVES TO VARIETY OF FINANCING METHODS. GROUP ULTIMATELY AGREED WITH THIS INTERPRETATION AND LEFT WAY OPEN FOR TREATING IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS IN APPROPRIATE MANNER.

C. FUTURE TIMETABLE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 05498 130741Z

DR. LUCAS DISTRIBUTED LIST (ALSO POUCHED) SHOWING TITLES AND LENGTH OF DOCUMENTS UNDER PREPARATION. ALL DOCUMENTS (TOTALING 672 PAGES PLUS 300 PAGE INVENTORY OF AFRICAN RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS) SCHEDULED FOR DISTRIBUTION IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. TECHNICAL REVIEW GROUP (HIGH LEVEL SCIENTIFIC PANEL OF APPROXIMATELY 20 MEMBERS) IS TO MEET LATE SEPTEMBER/EARLY OCTOBER TO REVIEW AND PRONOUNCE IT-

SELF UPON THIS DOCUMENTATION AS WELL AS PRIORITIES WITHIN PROPOSED TDR STRATEGY. RESULTS OF TECHNICAL REVIEW MEETING WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN OCTOBER AND DR. LUCAS PLANS TO HOLD CONSULTATIONS THEREAFTER ON BILATERAL OR "SMALL INFORMAL GROUP" BASIS WITH KEY PARTIES. IT IS PRESENTLY

PLANNED THAT MEETING OF ENLARGED GROUP (LARGER THAN ANY WHICH HAS MET PREVIOUSLY ON TDR BUT NOT REPEAT NOT THE SO-CALLED HEADS OF AGENCY MEETING) WILL BE HELD IN GENEVA DEC 6 TO 8. THIS MEETING IS NOW SEEN AS ONE WHICH WILL GIVE SIGNIFICANT ADDED IMPETUS TO PROGRAM (AGREEING AT LEAST ON INFORMAL BASIS TO LAUNCH THE ORGANIZATIONAL BODIES, REVIEW THE TOTALITY OF THE PROGRAM AS WELL AS THE PROPOSED 1977 BUDGET, ETC.), BUT IT NOT EXPECTED THAT GOVERNMENTS WOULD UNDERTAKE FORMAL COMMITMENTS TOWARD THE PROGRAM AS A WHOLE AT THAT TIME.

2. BOTH MATHIESON AND LADOUCEUR EXPECT TO BE IN US LATER THIS MONTH AND PLAN CONTACT BELCHER.DALE

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